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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/662,532	09/15/2000	Simon Peter Valentine	3 Com-82 (3074US)	1917
7265	7590	01/22/2004	EXAMINER	
MICHAELSON AND WALLACE PARKWAY 109 OFFICE CENTER 328 NEWMAN SPRINGS RD P O BOX 8489 RED BANK, NJ 07701			JUNTIMA, NITTAYA	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2663		
DATE MAILED: 01/22/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/662,532	VALENTINE ET AL.
	Examiner Nittaya Juntima	Art Unit 2663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2000.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 September 2000 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/662532.

 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2 . 6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 5-7, 11, and 12-13 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - claim 1, line 3, a comma should be added after “phone” and “each of” should be added after “for” to make the claim more clear;
 - line 4, a comma should be added following “controller;”
 - lines 4 and 7, “the or” should be deleted; and
 - line 9, “the or each” should be changed to “each said phone” to make the claim more clear;
 - claim 5, line 4, a period should be added at the end of the claim;
 - claim 6, line 2, “or embodied in a carrier wave” should be deleted as it recites the same limitation as recited in claim 13;
 - claim 7, lines 5 and 7, “the or each” should be changed to “each said” to make the claim more clear; and
 - line 10, “the or each” should be changed to “each said;”
 - claim 11, line 2, a comma should be added after “controller;” and
 - claim 12, line 8, “the or each” should be changed to “each said;”
 - line 9, “and” should be added after a semi-colon;
 - line 13, “and” should be added after a semi-colon;
 - line 15, “of” should be added after “is;”
 - line 16 and 18, should be further indented; and

line 17, "and" has been added after a semi-colon; and
claim 14, line 2, a comma should be added after "phone,"
line 3, "each of" should be added following "an address for;"
lines 4 and 7, "the or" should be deleted;
line 5, "means for" should be added after "network,"; and
line 9, "the or each" should be changed to "each said."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The following limitations lack antecedent basis:

claim 1, line 6, "the relevant information" and "the discovered telephone;"
claim 4, line 1, "the further step of discovering and displaying the topology of an arrangement;"
claim 5, line 3, "the physical relationship;"
claim 7, line 9, "the relevant information" and "the discovered telephone;"
claim 9, line 1, "the MAC address"

claim 10, line 1, "the further step of discovering and displaying the topology of an arrangement;"

claim 11, line 1, "the further program step of converting information;" and
lines 2-4, "the telephones" and "the physical relationship;"

claim 12, line 6, "the MAC addresses;"

line 16, "the second MAC;" and

claim 14, line 6, "the relevant information" and "the discovered telephone controller."

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 6, 7, 12-13, 14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

4. Claims 4-5, and 9-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

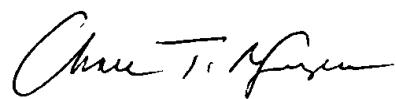
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nittaya Juntima whose telephone number is 703-306-4821. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on 703-308-5340. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Nittaya Juntima
January 15, 2004

NJ



CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600